



COMMANDO

Any Time, Any Place

Vol. 55, Issue 7

16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Feb. 17, 2006

EOD Airmen remove, detonate WWII-era bomb in Pensacola

by 2nd Lt. Amy Gonzales
Deputy Chief, public affairs

Explosive ordnance disposal Airmen from the 16th Civil Engineer Squadron destroyed a World War II-era explosive device found in Pensacola Tuesday.

The 100-pound photo-flash bomb, common to the World War II or Korean War period, was found by construction workers clearing storm debris in the waters of the Santa Rosa Sound on Pensacola Beach.

When they found the rubble, they dug it up with a backhoe. But, when they realized they found unexploded ordnance, the workers dropped the bomb onto the sand and notified the state fire marshal, who in turn requested military assistance.

Upon arrival at the scene, the team of three EOD Airmen immediately investigated the device.

"When we got there, it (the bomb) was laying on the ground near the water where the workers had dropped it," said Staff Sgt. Jason Wilburn, EOD team leader for the response.

Originally, the team planned to detonate the bomb on the beach.

"When we first got there,

"When we got there it (the bomb) was laying on the ground where the workers had dropped it."

Staff Sgt. Jason Wilburn,
EOD team leader

we didn't know what we were dealing with," said Sergeant Wilburn. "Once we knew what it was, we determined it was safe enough to transfer back to Hurlburt Field."

The team then loaded the bomb onto the response truck.

The Airmen performed an emergency detonation of the device using ten pounds of explosives at approximately 2:45 p.m. Tuesday on the EOD range.

This wasn't the first time 16th CES EOD has been asked to perform such a task in the local area.

"We've been asked to do this before, maybe twice a quarter," said Sergeant Wilburn.

Even though the response was off base, EOD's mission remained unchanged.

"It's our job no matter what the situation," said Sergeant Wilburn.



Courtesy photograph

RED HORSE ORI success

Two 823rd RED HORSE Squadron Airmen put on their nuclear, biological and chemical gear as part of an alarm condition red during the squadron's operational readiness inspection redo recently. The 823rd RHS earned a satisfactory rating.

Hurlburt Airman struck by utility pole

by 2nd Lt. Amy Gonzales
Deputy Chief, public affairs

A 16th Special Operations Wing Airman was struck by a utility pole Monday morning in a Fayetteville, N.C., Bojangles parking lot.

Airman 1st Class Gerald Winn, an C-130 fuel systems specialist at the 16th Maintenance Squadron, was on a temporary duty assignment at Pope Air Force Base when the accident occurred.

He is currently at the

University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Medical Center and listed in guarded condition.

News of Airman Winn's accident came as shock to his coworkers at Eglin.

"I have known him for five years, and it really hit me hard," said Master Sgt. Dennis Patrick, 16th MXS flight chief. "Airman Winn is always smiling and upbeat 98 percent of the day. He is one of my best troops."

Airman Winn was in the

restaurant's parking lot at approximately 8:30 a.m. when a garbage truck struck the utility pole as it was coming around the corner, hitting him on the head.

"This is a sad and unfortunate accident," said Col. Paul Harmon, 16th SOW commander. "Our thoughts and prayers are with Airman Winn and his family during this difficult time."

(Editors Note: Airman 1st Class James Dickens contributed to this article.)

News

Computer security office offers tips on how to protect your identity from "phishers"

News

Col. Thom Beres gives the COM-MANDO an interview about his role in dropping the Blu-82 Daisy Cutter in the Gulf War

Feature



Dental clinic keeps smiles bright

Sports



Heat beats Wildcats, 20-10

Wingman

0-0-1-3
0 Drinks under 21
0 DUIs
1 Drink an hour
3 Drinks a night

Weather

High Low

Today	70	57
Sat.	72	58
Sun.	64	50

Home of America's Air Commandos

Train Airmen to fill shoes of past leaders

by Chief Master Sgt.
James Kradel
20th SOS

Country music legend George Jones had a hit called "Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes." Funny how relevant this is to today's military environment.

Each year we ask ourselves this same question as more of our mentors step into retirement, and each year a new crop of leaders step into those bright and shiny boots.

Are we trained well enough to fill those gaps of knowledge in the Air Force mission, and can we properly take care of the troops and resources while continuing to uphold the traditions of those great Air Commandos? I believe we can and will.

It all starts with the first line supervisor.

Fresh out of Airman Leadership School, our troops are "re-blued," full of inspiration and ready to change the Air Force. Don't be the supervisor who challenges those finely pressed uniforms, neatly groomed hair, and shiny boots by telling them to "forget all that, and

Aimpoint

Become the next generation of Air Force and Air Commando leaders

get back into the way 'we' do things."

Be the supervisor who welcomes them back with their fresh ideas and challenges these new leaders to establish this "new look" as the standard in your work areas.

Whether you are a staff sergeant, colonel or government service employee, your attitude is crucial to ensuring that our adaptive, self-aware next generation of leaders acquires the proper skills and professional development training to replace you in the future. If you're thinking that you are irreplaceable, you'd better reevaluate yourself, because you're not doing your part to develop the next Air Force and Air Commando leaders.

While we continue to reduce the size of our Air Force manning, it

grows ever more apparent that we must rethink leader-ship preparation. As supervisors, we must "power down" to younger leaders and shift tasks to the lowest level possible. As you do this, remember that delegation of tasks doesn't relieve you of responsibility for task completion.

Task completion at a lower level provides younger troops with motivation, pride of ownership, a feeling that they are entrusted as being leaders. They have a share in the Air Commando mission and realize their purpose in the world's greatest Air Force. We train folks to be leaders from their inception into the Air Force. Some supervisors believe that Airmen don't lead. So, why is there a block on the Enlisted Performance Review for leadership? Truth is our Airmen have to lead – that's what separates us from other nations' militaries.

In the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, my unit had two choices: take four Airmen with less than 18 months out of high school or fail the mission. The later option was

See **AIMPOINT**, Page 6

Motorcycle safety attitude mitigates risk of injury

by Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Lowdermilk
16th SOW Safety Office

Propelling the human body above the speed of walking can have a risk.

When you put the body behind the wheel of a car with

its added safety features, it increases that risk. Put that body on a motorcycle and an increased attitude toward safety is what's needed to mitigate the risk. Some of what you need for that attitude is given to you.

See **MOTORCYCLE**, Page 6

Required motorcycle safety equipment

DODI 6055.4 and AFI 91-207 address Personal Protective Equipment that applies to all military personnel on or off a DOD installation and all DOD civilian personnel, in a duty status, on or off a DOD installation. They are as follows:

Helmets: Must be certified to meet Department of Transportation standards and properly fastened under the chin with a reflective material affixed.

Goggles and face shields: Impact- or shatter-resistant goggles or full-face shield properly attached to helmet. A windshield or eye glasses alone are not proper eye protection.

Sturdy footwear: Leather boots or over-the-ankle shoes are strongly encouraged.

Garment visibility: A brightly-colored outer upper garment during the day and a reflective upper garment during the night. Brightly colored or contrasting vest jacket must be a white, lime green, yellow, orange or bright red color. Battle dress uniforms (woodland or desert) and flight suits are considered to be brightly colored or contrasting.

Clothing and gloves: Long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long trousers, and full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for use on a motorcycle

ORI preparation

Make fire prevention part of daily routine

Follow these general fire prevention tips to keep you, your coworkers and your work area safe in the field:

General fire prevention

- Smoke only in designated areas
- Use proper receptacles for discarding smoking materials

- Practice good housekeeping in personal and storage areas
- Set up a fire alerting system
- Keep pathways to emergency exits clear
- Use carbon monoxide detectors, if available, when heating equipment

may produce carbon monoxide vapors

- Test smoke detectors often
- Know fire escape plans and participate in unit fire drills
- Know your assembly location
- Know the location and the operation of fire extinguishers
- Clear self-help projects through civil engineering

For a complete list, see Page 52 of the Airman's Manual.

16th SOW Aimpoints

- Fight and win
- Take best care of our wingmen, families and resources
- Become the next generation of Air Force and Air Commando leaders

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Submitting articles

The deadline for submissions to the COMMANDO is noon Monday for briefs the week of publication. Articles may be submitted on IBM format computer disk or via electronic mail. Non-electronic submissions must be typed, double-spaced. All submissions must include the name and telephone number of a person to call.

Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to the base commander for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community. To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number. Open lines of general interest will be printed in the COMMANDO.

Other questions will be answered by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you and perhaps improve their process. However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give the commander a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or e-mail your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.

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Airman 1st Class
James Dickens
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DUI Tracker



Feb. 10-16: 0 DUIs

This year: 4

DUIs for 2005: 31

Last DUI: 16th Civil Engineer Squadron, 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Feb. 3

Days since last DUI:

16th OG ... 135 16th MSG ... 13
16th MXG ... 32 16th MDG ... 414

Totals are current as of Feb. 16.

Don't Drink and Drive. Call AADD at 884-8844
Potential saves this year: 81



Photograph by Airman 1st Class James Dickens

Like new, again

Corrosion control contractors repaint the water tower located next to the base library Monday after being awarded a contract to revamp all of the water towers on Hurlburt Field.

Don't fall for 'phishermen's' tricks

Be aware of suspicious e-mails asking for personal information

by Airman 1st Class
James Dickens
Editor

You may have received an e-mail trying to steal your identity and not even realized it.

There were 147,177 instances of spam/"phishing" in January alone. This number has continued to grow every month with no sign of slowing down.

"Phishing" is the act of sending an e-mail to a user falsely claiming to be an established, legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

"There has been a 63-percent increase of spam/phishing e-mails since last July," said Staff Sgt. Petina Hunt, 16th Communications Squadron.

Recently someone set up a fake "myPay" Web site to steal service members' personal information.

The Web site looked exactly like the official one, letting members log in and enter their personal information. More than 33,000 people logged into the fake site unknowingly.

Tips to protect your identity

Generic greetings

Many phishing e-mails begin with a general greeting, such as: "Dear member." If you do not see your first and last name, be suspicious.

Fake sender's address

A phishing e-mail may include a forged e-mail address in the "from" field. This field is easily altered.

False sense of urgency

Many phishing e-mails try to deceive you with the threat that your account is in jeopardy if you don't update it as soon as possible.

They may also state that an unauthorized transaction has recently occurred on your account, or claim they're updating their accounts and need your information.

Fake links

Always check where a link is going before you click. If you click on one, it could direct you to a phishing Web site, install spyware on your system or cause you to download a virus that could disable your computer.

ing Web site, install spyware on your system or cause you to download a virus that could disable your computer.

Bad grammar

Phishing e-mails often contain misspellings, incorrect grammar, missing words and gaps in logic.

Unsafe sites

The term "https" should always precede any Web site address where you enter personal information. The "s" stands for secure.

If you don't see "https," you're not in a secure Web session, and you shouldn't enter data.

Pop-up boxes

Don't enter personal information into them.

Attachments

Never open an attachment. Most computers become infected when users click on an attachment that causes them to download spyware or a virus.

"The most common phishing e-mails that users on base have been receiving suppos-

edly originate from Bank of America, E-bay and Regions Bank," said Sergeant Hunt.

State elections approaching soon

by Airman 1st Class
James Dickens
Editor

If you think your vote doesn't matter, think again.

According to Maj. Mitchell Garnick, installation voting officer, only 537 votes separated President George W. Bush from Sen. John Kerry in the 2004 presidential elections in Florida.

"It's obvious that your vote counts when you look at the results from states like Florida," said Major Garnick.

The 2006 elections officially begin with the Texas state primary March 7.

However, people don't only vote for new leaders during elections.

Just recently, Santa Rosa County residents voted to change from a "dry" to a "wet" county, which allows the sale of liquor.

2006 primaries by state		
<i>This chart lists the 2006 state primary election dates in all the states, territories and the District of Columbia.</i>		
Alabama – June 6	Indiana – May 2	North Carolina – May 2
Alaska – Aug. 22	Iowa – June 6	North Dakota – June 13
Arizona – Sept. 12	Kansas – Aug. 1	Ohio – May 2
Arkansas – May 23	Kentucky – May 16	Oklahoma – July 25
California – June 6	Louisiana – Nov. 7	Oregon – May 16
Colorado – Aug. 8	Maine – June 13	Pennsylvania – May 16
Connecticut – Aug. 8	Maryland – Sept. 12	Rhode Island – Sept. 12
Delaware – Sept. 12	Massachusetts – Sept. 19	South Carolina – June 13
District of Columbia – Sept. 12	Michigan – Aug. 8	South Dakota – June 6
Florida – Sept. 5	Minnesota – Sept. 12	Tennessee – Aug. 3
Georgia – July 18	Mississippi – June 6	Texas – March 7
Guam – Sept. 2	Missouri – Aug. 8	Utah – June 27
Hawaii – Sept. 23	Montana – June 6	Vermont – Sept. 12
Idaho – May 23	Nebraska – May 9	Virginia – June 13
Illinois – March 21	Nevada – Aug. 15	Virgin Islands – Sept. 11
	New Hampshire – Sept. 12	Washington – Sept. 19
	New Jersey – June 6	West Virginia – May 9
	New Mexico – June 6	Wisconsin – Sept. 12
	New York – Sept. 12	Wyoming – Aug. 22

Each unit should have a unit voting officer assigned for every 100 members to help them with the voting process.

Service members can receive necessary information and forms to register to vote and vote at www.fvap.gov, said Master Sgt. Jack Gaskins,

installation voting officer.

For more information, call Major Garnick at 881-2133 or Sergeant Gaskins at 884-7236.

Dagger Point:

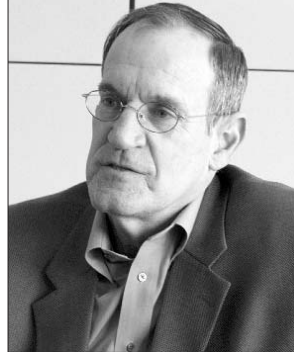
Col. Thom Beres leads 8th SOS in Blu-82 drops in Kuwait



"We wanted the maximum number of these troops to see these awesome bombs."



"Then he turned to me and said, 'Now, you get to pick (a target) colonel.'"



Photographs by Jamie Haig

"I think everyone came home feeling better about what they did for their country, the war and fellow Airmen."

by Senior Airman Heidi Davis
COMMANDO staff

On Aug. 2, 1990, Saddam Hussein, Iraqi president, invaded Kuwait as a response to the country's overproduction of oil, which had cost Iraq an estimated \$14 billion a year when oil prices fell. President Hussein also accused Kuwait of illegally pumping oil from Iraq's Rumaila oil field.

After Iraq refused the demand to withdraw by the United Nations Security Council, U.S. and coalition troops were sent in Aug. 7 to protect Saudi Arabia's oil fields, launching Operation Desert Shield.

Under the direction of Army Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, the United States began a massive air war to destroy Iraqi forces.

As a trusted leader, then Col. Thom Beres, 8th Special Operations Squadron commander, was deployed to Operation Desert Shield in the August-September timeframe. While meeting with the 16th Special Operations Wing commander, he tried to think of ways to win the war.

Colonel Beres suggested the use of Blu-82 Daisy Cutters, 15,000-pound tanks filled with a 12,600-pound explosive mixture, as a psychological weapon since most people likened the explosion to a small nuclear weapon.

In 1985, Colonel Beres had recovered Blu-82 fiberglass shells from storage for a classified mission. The 8th SOS dropped one Blu-82 every six months in a low profile manner.

Colonel Beres was told to forget about the bomb, since it was considered inhumane.

When he returned from Commander's Officers School the following October, Colonel Beres was told General Schwarzkopf had asked

what special operations could do for the war. Col. George Gray III, 16th SOW commander, suggested the Daisy Cutters. General Schwarzkopf asked for the bombs to be ordered, and for Colonel Beres to head up the operation.

Below is an excerpt from an interview Colonel Beres gave the COMMANDO:

COMMANDO: What happened after Gen. Schwarzkopf gave permission to proceed?

Beres: We had 13 of them ordered up, and the next thing was determining the targets. So, I was summoned to go lay out charts for General Schwarzkopf. I briefed him on the destruction of the bomb, and he picked the minefield and the oil fields as targets.

Then he turned to me and said, 'Now, you get to pick one colonel.'

Therefore, I picked the command center. The targets ended up being on the southwest part of Kuwait.

COMMANDO: Was there any warning before the Blu-82s were dropped?

Beres: We dropped leaflets that showed the Blu-82 and read, "We'll be back, but you don't know when." Some told them that if they didn't surrender the bombs would be dropped. So, it did develop into its own psychological effect.

COMMANDO: How did the Iraqi forces respond to the bomb drops?

Beres: We did a two-ship formation and dropped two of them. We went up together – about five miles apart – and dropped them simultaneously. It was boom, boom, lots of flash and lots of light.

We dropped the bombs 40 minutes after the cessation of regular hostility. Therefore, all the fighters had been hitting them for two or three hours,

and then there's this 40-minute pause. The reason for the pause was to allow the Iraqi forces to come out of their foxholes. We wanted the maximum number of troops to see these awesome bombs.

One of the best things was, as soon as the two bombs dropped, the entire Iraqi defense system came up – radars we didn't know about came up to see what had dropped these. We had only gone in eight miles, so we were already heading out. We were able to pinpoint those radars, go back in and hit them. Therefore, that was kind of a side light of this. We didn't expect it.

COMMANDO: How did it boost the spirits of the American troops to see the bombs dropped?

Beres: When we got back, of course, it was one of the things at the command center that everyone was feeling good about – not only did the mission go well, but shortly before this, the Spectre aircraft had been shot down. So, we really felt like we had given them some retaliation again for shooting down our gunship.

COMMANDO: Were bombs dropped only for the Army forces in Iraq?

Beres: Actually, the Marine Corps general who had the southern part of Kuwait heard we had dropped those two and immediately asked, "When do I get mine?" So, I went up on an Sea King helicopter out of Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., and arranged to drop two for the Marines. Therefore, the pattern started that we would drop two for the Marines and two for the Army.

COMMANDO: What influence did the bombs have on the enemy's advancements?



Photograph by Staff Sgt. Aaron Allmon

Soldiers from the Army's 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment load into an M2 Bradley infantry fighting vehicle as they conduct a combat patrol in the streets of Tall Afar, Iraq, Feb. 6.

Brothers In Arms

Army

MAHMUDIYAH, Iraq – Soldiers from 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, joined Iraqi troops here Feb. 13 in a project designed to stop the flow of insurgents and to help prevent the emplacement of improvised explosive devices. The forces built a joint traffic-control point, the second within the city.

Navy

SILVERDALE, Wash. – The first of four Ohio-class Trident missile submarines converting to carry guided missiles and Special Operations Forces rejoined the fleet in a return-to-service ceremony at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor Feb. 7. In December, *USS Ohio* completed conversion to a guided-missile submarine.

Marines

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. – The 3rd platoon, I Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment is currently participating with about 1,000 other Marines and Sailors from the battalion in the Urban Warfare Training Center portion of their revised combined-arms exercise and stability and support operations training – branded 'Mojave Viper.'

See **BERES**, Page 6

Nine Articles 15 served during January

Hurlburt Field commanders served nine Articles 15 during the month of January.

16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

—A senior airman was reduced to airman first class, given 45 days extra duty and a reprimand for failure to go and making a false official statement.

—An airman first class was given a suspended reduction to airman, 21 days extra duty, 21 days restriction to Hurlburt Field, forfeiture of \$250 pay and a reprimand for inappropriate speeches and gestures to another and willful dereliction of duty for failing to wear the proper safety gear.

16th Security Forces Squadron

—An airman first class was reduced to airman for willful

dereliction of duty for falling asleep on duty.

16th Helicopter Maintenance Squadron

—An airman first class was given a suspended reduction to airman, 45 days extra duty and a reprimand for being incapacitated for the performance of his duties due to drunkenness.

16th Component Maintenance Squadron

—A senior airman was given a suspended reduction to airman first class, 14 days extra duty and a reprimand for failure to go.

16th Logistics Readiness Squadron

—A senior airman was given a suspended reduction to airman first class, 14 days extra duty and forfeiture of \$400 pay per month for two

months for willful dereliction of duty for misuse of his government travel card.

720th Special Tactics Group

—A technical sergeant was given a suspended reduction to the grade of staff sergeant, 30 days extra duty, forfeiture of \$1,255 pay and a reprimand for willful dereliction of duty for failing to properly dispose munitions.

U.S. Air Force Special Operations School

—A staff sergeant was given a reprimand for writing worthless checks.

823rd RED HORSE Squadron

—A senior airman was reduced to the grade of airman first class, given 14 days extra duty, suspended forfeiture of \$382 pay and a reprimand for failure to go.

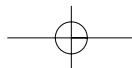


Photograph by Amy Oliver

Legislative day

A member of the New Gulf Coast Choir visits the Hurlburt Field display Feb. 8 at the state capitol in Tallahassee. Hurlburt Field representatives attended the 6th Annual Northwest Florida Legislative Day and highlighted Hurricane Katrina relief efforts to the booth's visitors.

ARMED FORCES COMM INC
CS/HOMELAND HERO
605585
5 X 7.00



AIMPOINT, Continued from Page 2

not even a consideration. So, we took them with us to a forward operating base. They were crewmembers and support troops living in tents that they learned to construct.

They were in combat and surrounded by uncertainty. They led.

All we had to do was sit in on a conversation during the day/night gathering outside our tents to hear small points or recommendations on how to make things better in the camp. They were the ones suggesting, taking the spare time to make improvements – from out-house facilities to digging a shower run-off trench – giving gunnery mission

briefs, researching aircraft tactics, even calling out anti-aircraft ground fire in flight to aid the pilots in evading enemy forces and returning fire when necessary.

These Airmen grew up fast; they quickly understood their importance in our Air Commando mission and their part in our national mission.

It's important that leadership at all

levels pass on knowledge and experience while continuing to be open to new and innovative ideas. Each of us is charged with the development of tomorrow's Air Force and Air Commando leaders each and every day. So, even though these troops may not have the initial confidence, they will be ready "to fill those shoes."

MOTORCYCLE, Continued from Page 2

Department of Defense Instruction 6055.4 states: "Before operation of any motorcycle, personnel shall successfully complete an approved rider or operator

safety course. Training required by this Instruction shall be provided at no cost to military and DOD civilian personnel. Personnel shall not be charged leave to attend training required by this Instruction."

Air Force Instruction 91-

207 addresses accepted motorcycle rider training courses, such as the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Beginner's Rider Course and the Experienced Rider Course.

Here are a couple things I've picked up over a few

years of riding to help the safety attitude:

Know your limits: Don't try to ride as fast as every one else in the group if it's too fast for you.

Check your surroundings

Use your head: Use your mirrors but don't just rely on

them; always turn your head and use your peripheral vision.

Pay attention to the surface of the road: Look far enough ahead of you to avoid something.

For more training information call 884-2611.

BERES, Continued from Page 4

Beres: Later, while I was at Tyndall AFB, Fla., a Marine walked up to me, shook my hand and said, "I wanted to thank you for those Blu-82s."

I said, "What do you mean?"

He said, "Well, they would tell us when you would drop them, and all my troops would come out of the fox-

holes and sit up to watch them go off."

They said you could hear the southern line of Marines cheer when these things cooked off. He said it gave his troops a lot of morale boosts knowing we were throwing everything we could into the area they would penetrate. Wherever we dropped the Blu-82s, the troops had no trouble going through. There was

no resistance – everything was gone.

COMMANDO: How did the aircrew handle working with a bomb of that size?

Beres: The real heroes who dropped the Blu-82 were the loadmasters in the back. For the aircrews it was a standard drop. As a navigator, it was no different than dropping anything else out the back of the aircraft. For the pilot, it was a combat mission.

For the loadmasters, it was a challenge. Very few of these people had ever dropped one.

COMMANDO: Do you think the Blu-82 bomb drops were a success?

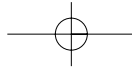
Beres: Yes. We never had one accident or one problem with the missions. I think everyone came home feeling better about what they did for their country, the war and fellow Airmen.

BOB BAKER
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607108
1 X 3.00

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METHODIST
CS/SERVICES
606090
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ANTHONY'S
CS/PRIME RIB
605506
2 X 3.00

REMAX TOTAL PROPERTIES
CS FRNT SECT/AGE
607122
5 X 3.00



Focus 56 gives strong voice to junior NCOs

by Staff Sgt.
Mareshah Haynes
COMMANDO staff

Air Force Instruction 36-2618, The Enlisted Force Structure, states NCO's should promote organizational esprit de corps and foster good community relations by supporting professional organizations.

Focus 56 gives junior NCOs the opportunity to do just that.

Focus 56 is a Hurlburt Field professional organization created in December 2002 geared toward staff sergeant selects, staff sergeants and technical sergeants.

The organization is designed to strengthen the leadership and supervisory skills of E-5s and E-6s through interaction with various guest speakers.

The speakers provide mentoring sessions on issues requested by and tailored to the needs of the junior enlisted corps, said Tech. Sgt. Craig Straw, Focus 56 president.

The group is also a forum to articulate and elevate issues that affect the junior NCO corps to senior leadership.

"We are in the business of taking care of our Air Force family, and Focus 56 is a great way to get involved," said Tech. Sgt. Tammie Pyne, Focus 56 secretary.

Focus 56 discusses topics, such as child care for military families, enlisted benefits and other issues discussed in Congress.

Focus 56 gives junior NCO's the opportunity to network and volunteer in the community with other organ-

izations, such as Habitat for Humanity and the Waterfront Rescue Mission.

Focus 56 sponsors the Prisoners of War/Missing in Action ceremony and the honor guard awards banquet, and it supports Airmen Against Drunk Driving with time and monetary donations.

"We served more than 900 hundred meals at the Waterfront Rescue Mission during Thanksgiving," Sergeant Straw said.

"We are in the business of taking care of our Air Force family, and Focus 56 is a great way to get involved."

*Tech. Sgt. Tammie Pyne
Focus 56 secretary*

Currently there are more than 4,000 junior NCOs at Hurlburt Field, but less than one percent of them are actively involved in Focus 56.

"Our primary goal for 2006 is to increase our membership to at least 1,000 actively-involved members, while building strong relationships with our Airmen and senior NCO corps," Sergeant Straw said.

"It would be great to have everyone on board with this awesome organization. It will be amazing to see what more members could accomplish," Sergeant Pyne said.

Focus 56 meets at 3:30 p.m. the 3rd Tuesday of every month. For more information, visit <https://intranet.hurlburt.af.mil/local/proforg/top3/> and hit the Focus 56 button.

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Cell phone hands-free law

Courtesy of 16th SFS

Driving while talking on a cell phone on base without the use of a hands-free device is against the law. A hands-free device is classified as a speakerphone or an earpiece used in one ear only. Drivers not following this policy are subject to receiving a traffic ticket, which will result in three points being assessed to their base driving record. The intent of this policy is to reduce the number of distracted drivers and traffic accidents. For more information, call the 16th Security Forces Squadron at 884-6185.

African-American History Month

Col. Edward Levell Jr.:
1st SOW commanderby Jamie Haig
Contractor

Col. Edward Levell Jr. was the first and only African-American commander of the 1st Special Operations Wing at Hurlburt Field.

Colonel Levell served as commander from July 1, 1976 to July 29, 1977.

Prior to his arrival at Hurlburt Field, Colonel Levell had already made a name for himself in the Air Force.

Colonel Levell was the first Air Force pilot to log 3,000 flying hours in the F-100 Super Sabre aircraft.

During his assignment with the U.S. Air Forces Europe flying the tactical fighter aircraft, Colonel Levell was awarded the command's "Top Gun", "Well Done" and "Select Crew" awards.

Colonel Levell followed that assignment with three tours in Southeast Asia and then proceeded to the Air Force Academy as the

squadron officer commanding, group air officer commanding and deputy commandant of cadets.

Colonel Levell arrived at Hurlburt in 1973 as the 1st SOW deputy commander of operations, and in September 1975, he became the vice wing commander.

During his tenure as the 1st SOW commander, he led the wing's three squadrons, the 8th Special Operations Squadron, the 16th SOS and the 20th SOS, in more than 13 exercises and joint-training missions.

"We were always doing some exercise with the Army and Navy," retired Colonel Levell said. "We spent a lot of time at Pope Air Force Base and the reserve base at Duke Field."

The face of Hurlburt Field changed under Colonel Levell's command.

A new base exchange, commissary and multi-purpose hobby shop opened in the fall of 1976 as well as the



Col. Edward Levell Jr.

building of an NCO club and the construction or renovation of more than 200 base housing units.

On July 29, 1977, Colonel Levell turned over the command of the 1st SOW to Col. Richard Dunwoody.

"Working at Hurlburt Field was one of the greatest things that could have happened to me and my career," Colonel Levell said.

"The people and the mission were unique and unforgettable. We had a lot of good folks and a lot of good support from 9th Air Force. I'll never forget it," he said.

African-American history facts

The convertible top: On Jan. 21, 1919, James Jones of Jackson, Tenn., received a patent for a mechanism to raise and lower a top for an automobile.

Mr. Jones, who had worked as a railroad fireman, was a skilled mechanic and designed the device at a time when most automobiles lacked tops.

The golf tee: In 1899, Dr. George Grant received U.S. patent number 638,920 for his

invention of a golf tee – a small cone-shaped, solid piece of wood with a slightly concave top.

Before Dr. Grant's invention in Boston, golfers used small mounds of dirt on which to place their balls. A Harvard University graduate and prominent dentist, he never made an attempt to capitalize on his invention. The tees used in modern golf games were adapted from his invention.

Protect pearly whites – wear mouth guard

by Staff Sgt. Katie Craig
16th MDOS

February is National Children's Dental Health Month.

Wearing a mouth guard can be the difference between a minor and a serious injury.

Use a mouth guard during any activity that could result in a blow to the face or mouth.

Anyone who participates in a sport that carries a significant risk of injury should wear a mouth guard.



Photograph by Senior Airman Heidi Davis

The 16th Medical Group Dental Clinic constructs mouth molds to fit for cracked or damaged teeth.

A properly-fitted mouth guard can help prevent broken teeth and injuries to the lips, tongue, face or jaw. It will stay in place while wear-

ing it, making it easy to talk and breath.

Talk to your dentist about having a mouth guard made specifically for you.

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Teen center searches for talented youth

by Karen DeCarlo
16th SVS

The Hurlburt Field Teen Center along with the Air Force Services Agency is on a "talent search" for teens, ages 14-18, to attend the Performing Arts Theater.

Completed application packages and auditions are due to the teen center by March 10.

Thirty-two teens will have an all-expense-paid trip to attend a camp set in a rustic outdoor camping area on Seely Lake in Montana.

Two camps are set for this summer, July 16-22 and July 23-29, doubling the number of spaces from last year to 64.

Teens will enjoy a week of voice, dance, stage presence and acting seminars as well as arts and crafts, waterfront activities and campfires.

Selections will be made by AFSVA and announced no later than May 1. Participants are selected based on their applications and audition tapes.

Application forms and requirements are available online at www.afyouthprograms.com or at the teen center. The teen center is located in building 90337 behind the base library. New hours are 4-8 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, and 4-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 884-1411.

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Special OPERATORS

Congratulations to the following individuals who were selected as quarterly award winners:

16th Maintenance Group

Capt. Andrew Clayton
Master Sgt. Karen Fisher
Tech. Sgt.

George Anderson
Airman 1st Class
Joseph Huff

16th Medical Group

Capt. Mark Noon
Master Sgt.
Rojelio Martinez
Staff Sgt.

Anthony Furlough
Senior Airman
Alexis Padilla

Bobby Lucas
Shirlan Brooks

16th Mission Support Group

Capt.
Clarence Anderson III
Master Sgt.
Christopher Dunham

Staff Sgt.

Thiago Oliveira
Airman 1st Class
Whitney Hancock
Carol Vickers
Paula Hull
David Smart

16th Operations Group

Capt. David Peck
Master Sgt.
Gregory Smith
Staff Sgt.

Charles Palocy III
Senior Airman
Christopher Garcia
Nancy Rapsawatti
William Andrus

505th Command and Control Wing

Capt. Tracy Carver
Master Sgt. Eric Bobo
Staff Sgt. Jake Nichols
Airman 1st Class
Deanna Peil
Elizabeth Davis

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Military

Change of command

Lt. Col. Ted Fordyce II will take command of the 16th Special Operations Squadron at 2 p.m. Feb. 24 in the 16th Aircraft Maintenance Unit nose dock. Uniform of the day is battle dress uniform.

USAFSOS courses

A Cross-Cultural Communications Course will convene April 10-14 at the U.S. Air Force Special Operations School. The course is designed for personnel preparing to live or deploy overseas, who work with international military personnel, and those with a professional or analytical interest in international studies.

For more information, call Capt. Apryl Cymbal at 884-4472 or visit <https://www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/tenantunits/jsou>.

Also, the Sub-Saharan Africa Orientation Course will convene April 10-14. This course is designed for personnel preparing to live in or deploy to the Sub-Saharan Africa region.

For more information, call Capt. Paul Saskiewicz at 884-6793 or visit <https://www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/tenantunits/jsou/>.

HARM hours

The new Host Aviation Resource Management Office hours are 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday - Friday and closed on 16th Special Operations Wing training days. For more information, call 884-4528.

Overseas EQUAL

The Overseas Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing is available for overseas requirements for October – December. Assignment preferences must be updated by today. If selected, Airmen will be notified no later than March 15. Airmen should review, prioritize and update their assignment preference based on the EQUAL list. Airmen may view the list at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/default.asp>.

Deployment brief

A pre-deployment processing briefing is held at 8 a.m. every Wednesday in the Deployment Control Center. Personnel will receive deployment checklists, mobility bags, and required finance, personnel readiness unit and medical group briefings.

Post-deployment processing begins at 8 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday in the DCC. People will be able to speak with representatives from PRU, mobility bags, the 16th Medical Group and finance.



Photograph by Amy Oliver

Mardi Gras

Col. John Cooper, 16th Maintenance Group commander, his family and Airmen from the 16th MXG represented Hurlburt Field in the 3rd Annual Mardi Gras on the Island Parade Feb. 11 on Okaloosa Island in Fort Walton Beach.

For more information, call your unit deployment manager.

Wednesday in the base theater. For more information, call 884-5441.

Community

SF banquet

Air Force Special Operations Command Security Forces will hold its annual award winners banquet at 6 p.m. Thursday in The Soundside. All current and former security forces and air policemen are invited to attend. For more information, call 884-5104.

Awards banquet

The 16th Special Operations Wing Annual Awards Banquet will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday in the Emerald Coast Conference Center on Okaloosa Island. Tickets are \$25 per person. The required uniform is mess dress or semi-formal. See unit first sergeants to purchase tickets.

Chiefs' group

The Hurlburt Field Chiefs' Group sponsors scholarships for seniors who attend high school in Escambia, Santa Rosa or Okaloosa counties, and are dependants of active-duty or retired enlisted members. Applications are available from high school guidance offices. Deadline to apply is April 1.

For more information, e-mail peter.christofferson.ctr@hurlburt.af.mil or call 884-5885.

Hearts Apart event

Hearts Apart will meet 5:30-7 p.m. Feb. 24 in the family support center. Representatives will teach makeup techniques, and spouses will receive a paraffin hand treatment. Refreshments will be served. Limited to the first 30 spouses to sign up by Tuesday. For reservations, call 884-5441.

Veterans' Affairs

A Department of Veterans' Affairs briefing will be held 7:30-11:30 a.m.

Prayer luncheon

The annual national prayer luncheon will begin at 11 a.m. Wednesday in The Soundside. The guest speaker will be Fisher DeBerry, Air Force Academy football coach. Tickets are available through first sergeants and the base chapel. For more information, call at 884-7795.

Transition assistance

A Transition Assistance Program seminar will meet 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Tuesday – Thursday in the family support center. The program helps separating and retiring military members and their families transition into the civilian sector.

Facilitators cover career decisions, job applications, job interviews, economic trends, personal appearance, guidance and support for the transitioning member. For more information, call 884-5441.

Pre-TAP briefing

The Pre-Transitions Assistance Program mandatory briefing on benefit entitlements is for service members who are separating or retiring. Briefings are at 7:45 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday in the family support center. For an appointment, call 884-2654.

Eglin spouses' club

The Eglin Officers' Spouses' Club is hosting a live charity auction at 6 p.m. March 3 in the Eglin Officers' Club. Cost is \$5, and light appetizers will be served. For more information, call Tori Reppart at 651-1386 or Gina Langley at 651-7053.

Also, the EOSC is sponsoring a used book sale 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Feb. 28 in the Eglin Air Force Base Library. The proceeds will benefit the library and EOSC charitable programs. For more information, call 987-5083.

At the movies



Prices are \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children age 6 and older. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Hurlburt Field – 884-7648

Friday – Munich (R) Set in the aftermath of the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics, the story follows a secret Israeli squad assigned to track down and kill the 11 Palestinians suspected to have planned the Munich attack – and the personal toll this mission of revenge takes on the team and the man who led it.

Saturday – Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) A wealthy couple loses their main source of income, causing both to turn to a life of crime – as they organize various heists on their rich friends' accounts.

Sunday – The Ringer (PG-13) When Steve Barker finds himself running dead last in the corporate rat race, he sinks to an all time low – he attempts to rig the Special Olympics by pretending to be intellectually challenged. But Barker is completely out-classed by his fellow Olympians, who are not only better athletes; they're just plain better people.

Eglin – 882-1066

Friday – Grandma's Boy (R) By day, 35-year-old Alex is the world's oldest video game tester, but by night, he is privately developing the next big game for the X-Box generation. When one of his roommates spends all the rent money on Taiwanese hookers, Alex is kicked out of his apartment, and finds himself forced to live with his grandmother and her friends Grace and Bea.

Saturday – Hoodwinked (PG) Furry and feathered cops from the animal world, Chief Grizzly and Detective Bill Stork, investigate a domestic disturbance at Granny's cottage, involving a girl, a wolf and an axe. The charges are many: breaking and entering, disturbing the peace, intent to eat, and wielding an axe without a license.

Sunday – Casanova (R) When Giacomo Casanova discovered Francesca Bruni, he met his ultimate romantic match, succumbing to the only woman ever to refuse his charms. Not only a dashing rebel and wit, Casanova is also a vulnerable man who is chasing after love as Bishop Pucci of the Inquisition chases after him.

(Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm dates.)

Base chapel



Catholic Mass
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 7:15 and 10 a.m.
Confessions:
Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request
Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday
Religious Education:
September – May

Protestant Services

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. (Traditional worship)

11:30 a.m. (Contemporary worship)

Religious Education: August – May

Youth and Singles groups available

Jewish Services (882-2111)

Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel Center

Muslim Services (882-2111), Eglin Chapel Center

Jumuah: Friday, 12:45 p.m.

For more information, call 884-7795.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving

For a free, confidential ride home, call AADD at 884-8844. Don't drink and drive.

24-hour Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline:

Hurlburt Field – 884-6322

Air Force – (800) 538-8429

Department of Defense – (800) 424-9098

Comptroller seminar

The Gulf Coast Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers and the Northwest Florida Chapter of the National Contract Management Association will conduct a professional development seminar March 3 in the Emerald Coast Conference Center on Okaloosa Island. Registration costs \$115 for ASMC/NCMA members and \$145 for nonmembers. Fees increase after today. Register online at: www.gulfcoastasmc.org/pds2006/pds_info.htm.

MOAA scholarships

The Military Officer Association of America is offering scholarships to dependent children who are high school seniors or college students working on their first undergraduate degree. Applicants must be less than 24 years old, a Department of Defense ID cardholder and planning to attend an accredited institution in the fall. For more information, visit <http://www.moaa.org> or e-mail edassist@moaa.org.

Air National Guard

The Air National Guard 106th Rescue Wing and 106th Maintenance Group in New York has full-time and part-time maintenance positions available. Open positions include aerospace ground equipment mechanics, engine mechanic, survival equipment, munitions and aircraft mechanics. For more information, call Col. Robert Landsiedel at DSN 456-7497 or (800) 856-3573, ext. 7497.

Lasting relationships

A lunch-and-learn opportunity will be

held 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Thursday in the family support center. Bring a lunch, and enjoy a video series by Gary Smalley on understanding and enhancing relationships. For more information, call 884-5441.

Base tax center

The base tax center is open in building 90332 and is available to assist people with free tax preparations until April 15. This service is on an appointment-only basis. For an appointment, call 884-7542.

AFIT degrees

The enlisted-to-Air-Force-Institute of Technology program offers technical, master and senior master sergeants with a bachelor's degree the opportunity to earn a master's degree as a full-time student.

The registration deadline is Feb. 27. For more information, visit <http://afit.edu/p/enlisted.cfm>.

CCAF deadline

The deadline to apply for the Community College of the Air Force spring term is Feb. 24. To graduate in the spring, mail transcripts to:

CCAF/DFRS

130 W. Maxwell Blvd.

Maxwell Air Force Base, AL 36112-6613

For more information, call 884-6724.

OWC fast track

Enrollment is open at Okaloosa-Walton College for an eight-week fast track term that begins Feb. 27. For more information, call the OWC Hurlburt Field office at 884-6296 or visit www.owc.edu.



Photograph by Capt. Nichole Francisco

Building shelters

An 823rd RED HORSE Squadron Airman welds part of a hardened shelter on the Eglin Air Force Base range in Walton County. 823rd RHS built the structures to protect equipment on the range from weather damage.

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Drew Horgan (red shirt) guards Alex Rodriguez during the 9- and 10-year-old basketball game Saturday in the youth center. Ramel Carpenter (below) dribbles the ball.

Photographs by Airman 1st Class James Dickens

Bringing the heat

Heat defeats Wildcats Saturday in 9-, 10-year-old basketball, 20-10

by Airman 1st Class
James Dickens
Editor

The Heat tamed the Wildcats in a 20-10 victory in a 9- and 10-year-old basketball game Saturday in the youth center.

Although the Heat won the game,

the Wildcats never stopped trying to make a comeback.

"The Wildcats are a small team that plays with a lot of heart," said Ken Campbell, Wildcats coach. "Every team we have played so far has been considerably taller than us, but we make up for it on the defensive end – we really scrap for the ball!"

"I'm glad we won," said Ramel Carpenter. "Everyone was there and played as a team."

Points

Heat	
Xavier Gibson	5
Devin Miles	5
Vanessa Perez	4
Derek Heis	3
Drew Horgan	2
Ramel Carpenter	1
Wildcats	
Israel Black	6
Richard Geraci	4
Cedric Barron	2
Alex Rodriguez	2

Relay For Life returns to Gulf Coast

by Airman 1st Class
James Dickens
Editor

The Relay For Life is just around the corner, and local communities are hoping to see the same support from Hurlburt Field this year as last year.

"The Biggest Hope on Earth" is the theme for this year's fundraiser for the fight against cancer, which takes

place April 7-8 at Navarre High School.

Samantha Berens, Relay For Life Navarre publicity chairperson, said that the event is the largest fund-raising event in the world, taking place in 4,200 communities across the country with more than three million people participating.

"I lost my mom to cancer, and I've been doing this ever since before she passed

away," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael Pirollo, 16th Equipment Maintenance Squadron.

Last year, Hurlburt Field had 13 teams participate, which raised \$14,500. The chiefs/first sergeant team led the way raising more than \$3,700.

The relay works by getting individuals or groups to sponsor participants by pledging a certain amount of money per mile walked.

"We're extremely excited about Relay For Life," said Joanne Ryan, Relay For Life Navarre team development chairperson. "We look forward to meeting others who are dedicated in the fight against cancer."

"Any little bit you can do helps," said Chief Pirollo.

To register a team or for more information on how you can participate, call 244-3813.

In the bleachers

Okaloosa baseball

Registration for the Okaloosa men's baseball league 18-and-over and 30-and-over divisions is at 3 p.m. Feb. 26 at the Twin Oaks baseball field in Niceville. League fees are \$155 for 30-and-over players and \$145 for under-30 players. The games begin April 1 and are played in the Okaloosa County area. For more information, call 864-7529 or visit www.ombl.org.

Golf tournament

The men's varsity softball team will hold a golf tournament at the Gator Lakes Golf Course today. Check-in begins at 7 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. The entry fee is \$40 per person. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Charles Shepard at 884-3656 or Senior Master Sgt. Scott Bowen at 884-7421.

Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society Emerald Coast Area is recruiting teams to participate in Relay For Life – a unique community event that allows individuals from all walks of life to join in the fight against cancer. This year's Navarre Relay For Life will take place April 7-8 at Navarre High School. The kick-off celebration will be held Tuesday. For more information, call 244-3813.

Fit Eagle

The 16th Services Squadron has opened registration for Fit Eagle 2006. Team rosters are due by noon Thursday, and the competition takes place Feb. 24 at the Aderholt Fitness Center. There can be up to two teams per squadron, with a limit of 30 teams on base. Teams must have three men – one over 30, one over 40 – and one of any age. Teams must also have two women of any age on their team. A legitimate attempt must be made to find females in your own squadron before recruiting from another squadron. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Tamara Rosa at 884-6884.

Rugby season

Hurlburt Field and Eglin Air Force Base are looking for players for Rugby season. For more information call Lt. Col. John Colletta at 882-2191.

Paintball tournament

The 16th Electronic Warfare Squadron Ravens will hold a paintball tournament April 7-8 for the first 30 teams to sign up. The double-elimination tournament will follow speed ball rules. Field paint use is a must. Cost is \$100 for every five-man team. Trophies will be awarded to the top three teams. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Adrian Getzlaff at 882-0709 or Senior Airman Robert O'Bannon at 882-0710.

Volunteer coaches

The youth center is looking for volunteer coaches for youth baseball and girls softball teams. Application packages are available at the youth center. For more information, call 884-6355.